

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Wendy L. HAMILTON Heather A. SOREBO William G. REEVES Patsy A. HANSEN Emmanuelle C. DAMAY Robert J. MAKOLIN Joseph DiPALMA Fung-jou CHEN Jeffrey D. LINDSAY	Prior Application Group No.: 3761
Title: ABSORBENT ARTICLES WITH NITS AND FREE-FLOWING PARTICLES	Prior Application Examiner: Catharine L. Anderson
Express Mail No.: EV318091036US	
Date of Deposit: 12 September 2003	

FIRST INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with Rule 1.56, the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 were cited during prosecution of the patent application listed below, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120:

Title: ABSORBENT ARTICLES WITH NITS
AND FREE-FLOWING PARTICLES
Applicant(s): Wendy L. HAMILTON et al.
Serial No.: 09/547,203
Filing Date: 12 April 2000
Attorney Docket No.: KCC-14,105.1

and are hereby brought to the attention of the Examiner as possibly being material to examination of the subject application.

The following commonly-assigned, pending patent applications were also cited in the parent application:

08/912,906, Filing Date: 15 August 1997, by F.J. Chen et al. for WET RESILIENT WEBS AND DISPOSABLE ARTICLES MADE THEREWITH

09/072,172, Filing Date: 05 May 1998, by A.S. Burns et al. for STABILIZED ABSORBENT MATERIAL AND SYSTEMS FOR PERSONAL CARE PRODUCTS HAVING CONTROLLED PLACEMENT OF VISCO-ELASTIC FLUIDS, which claims priority over abandoned U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 60/079,657

09/083,873, Filing Date: 22 May 1998, by F.J. Chen et al. for FIBROUS ABSORBENT MATERIAL AND METHODS OF MAKING THE SAME

09/119,602, Filing Date: 22 July 1998, by J.D. Cotton et al. for AN ELONGATED LIQUID ABSORBENT PAD AND SYSTEM FOR COLLECTING LEAKS AND SPILLS

09/165,871, Filing Date: 02 October 1998, by F.J. Chen et al. for ABSORBENT ARTICLES HAVING GOOD BODY FIT UNDER DYNAMIC CONDITIONS

09/165,875, Filing Date: 02 October 1998, by F.J. Chen et al. for ABSORBENT ARTICLE WITH CENTER FILL PERFORMANCE

09/545,156, Filing Date: 07 April 2000, by P.A. Hansen et al. for SUPERABSORBENT-CONTAINING COMPOSITES which claims priority over abandoned U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 60/129,744

Express Mail No.: EV318091036US

Docket No. KCC-14,105.3

09/547,202, Filing Date: 12 April 2000, by W. L. Hamilton for ABSORBENT ARTICLES WITH ABSORBENT FREE-FLOWING PARTICLES AND METHODS FOR PRODUCING THE SAME

09/547,754, Filing Date: 12 April 2000, by W.L. Hamilton et al. for FIBROUS STRUCTURES INCLUDING A FIBER BUNDLE AND A DEBONDING AGENT which claims priority over abandoned U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 60/129,746

60/129,752, Filing Date: 16 April 1999, by W.G. Reeves et al. for METHOD OF MAKING AN ABSORBENT ARTICLE CONTAINING EUCALYPTUS NITS

Form PTO-1449 (14 pages) is enclosed. Copies of these references are not enclosed as they are contained in the file of the related parent application.

Respectfully submitted,



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FORM PTO-1449 (MODIFIED)	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DOCKET NO. KCC-14,105.3	SERIAL NO.
		APPLICANT(S) Wendy L. HAMILTON et al.	
		FILING DATE	GROUP

LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT
 (Use several sheets if necessary)

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5,342,337	08/1994	Runeman et al.			
	AB	5,597,873	01/1997	Chambers et al.			
	AC	4,190,563	02/1980	Bosley et al.			
	AD	6,156,020	12/2000	Roe et al.			
	AE	6,025,186	02/2000	Kirk et al.			
	AF	5,885,263	03/1999	Gancet et al.			
	AG	5,762,641	06/1998	Bewick-Sonntag et al.			
	AH	5,649,915	07/1997	Chauvette et al.			
	AI	5,643,588	07/1997	Roe et al.			
	AJ	5,599,334	02/1997	Johnston et al.			
	AK	5,009,650	04/1991	Bernardin			

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		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	AL							
	AM							
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							

OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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Wendy L. HAMILTON et al.

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Initials	Doc. No.	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
	A225	5,858,021	01/1999	Sun et al.		
	A226	5,865,824	02/1999	Chen et al.		
	A227	5,866,242	02/1999	Tan et al.		
	A228	5,883,231	03/1999	Achter et al.		
	A229	5,888,345	03/1999	Knapick et al.		
	A230	5,914,125	06/1999	Andrews et al.		
	A231	5,935,383	08/1999	Sun et al.		
	A232	5,990,377	11/1999	Chen et al.		
	A233	6,015,648	01/2000	Mitsumura et al.		
	A234	6,020,055	02/2000	Pearce		
	A235	6,020,536	02/2000	Osterdahl et al.		
	A236	6,103,953	08/2000	Cree et al.		
	A237	6,165,306	12/2000	Rajala		
	A238	6,172,276 B1	01/2001	Hetzler et al.		
	A239	6,198,019 B1	03/2001	Hansson et al.		

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							Trans.	
Initials	Doc. No.	Date	Country	Class	Subclass		Yes	No
A1	AU 650912	04/1992	Australia				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A2	CA 803,531	01/1969	Canada				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A3	CA 884,608	11/1971	Canada				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A4	DE 32 05 931 A1	09/1983	Germany				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A5	EP 0 124 365 A1	11/1984	Europe				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A6	EP 0 136 524 A1	04/1985	Europe				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A7	EP 0 225 940 A1	06/1987	Europe				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A8	EP 0 360 285 A2	03/1990	Europe				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A9	EP 0 366 079 A2	05/1990	Europe				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A10	EP 0 374 910 B1	06/1990	Europe (Eng. claims)				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A11	EP 0 391 727 A2	10/1990	Europe				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A12	EP 0 395 223 A2	10/1990	Europe				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A13	EP 0 441 064 A1	08/1991	Europe				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Foreign Patent Documents							Trans.	
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	A2						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A3						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other Documents		
Initials		Author, Title, Date, Pages, etc.
	A1	McCauley, N., "Vibrating and Gyrotory Screeners: Proper Installation Yields Top Performance", <u>Powder and Bulk Engineering</u> , Volume 13, Number 12, December 1999, pp. 35-39
	A2	
	A3	
	A4	
	A5	
	A6	

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	A14	EP 0 483 592 A1	05/1992	Europe		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A15	EP 0 549 784 B1	07/1993	Europe		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A16	EP 0 552 345 B1	09/1993	Europe		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A17	EP 0 597 273 A1	05/1994	Europe		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A18	EP 0 682 927 A1	11/1995	Europe		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A19	EP 0 687 453 A1	12/1995	Europe		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A20	EP 0 768 070 A1	04/1997	Europe		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A21	EP 0 768 072 A1	04/1997	Europe		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A22	EP 0 781 537 A1	07/1997	Europe		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A23	EP 0 804 913 A1	11/1997	Europe		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A24	EP 0 875 224 A1	11/1998	Europe		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A25	EP 0 893 517 A2	01/1999	Europe		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A26	EP 0 904 755 A2	03/1999	Europe		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A27	FR 1,358,269	12/1964	France		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	A28	FR 1,554,951	01/1969	France		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A29	GB 2 233 235 A	01/1991	Great Britain		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A30	GB 2 296 437 B	07/1996	Great Britain		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A31	WO 83/03051 A1	09/1983	World - PCT (Engl. abstract)		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A32	WO 92/07535 A1	05/1992	World - PCT		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A33	WO 96/17573 A3	06/1996	World - PCT		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A34	WO 96/38232 A1	12/1996	World - PCT		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A35	WO 97/14389 A1	04/1997	World - PCT		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A36	WO 97/21453 A1	06/1997	World - PCT		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A37	WO 97/34558 A1	09/1997	World - PCT		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A38	WO 97/34559 A1	09/1997	World - PCT		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A39	WO 98/00081 A1	01/1998	World - PCT		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A40	WO 98/00082 A1	01/1998	World - PCT		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A41	WO 98/01684 A1	01/1998	World - PCT		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A42	WO 98/24389 A1	06/1998	World - PCT		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A43	WO 98/31318 A1	07/1998	World - PCT		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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	A44	WO 98/36720 A1	08/1998	World - PCT		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A45	WO 98/43684 A1	10/1998	World - PCT (Encl. abstract)		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A46	WO 00/62730 A1	10/2000	World - PCT		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A47	WO 00/63487 A1	10/2000	World - PCT		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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A1	American Society for Testing Materials (ASTM) Designation: D 1921-89, "Standard Test Methods for Particle Size (Sieve Analysis) of Plastic Materials ¹ ," published August 1989.
A2	American Society for Testing Materials (ASTM) Designation: D 3574-91, "Standard Test Methods for Flexible Cellular Materials--Slab, Bonded, and Molded Urethane Foams," Procedures C and H, published March 1992.
A3	American Society for Testing Materials (ASTM) Designation: D 4032-82, "Standard Test Method for Stiffness of Fabric by the Circular Bend Procedure," pp. 702-706, published August 1982.
A4	American Society for Testing Materials (ASTM) Designation: D 6128-97, "Standard Shear Testing Method for Bulk Solids Using the Jenike Shear Cell ¹ ," published October 1998.
A5	Austin, L.G. et al., "Size Reduction of Solids: Crushing and Grinding Equipment," Chapter 12 in <u>Handbook of Powder Science and Technology</u> , 2nd edition, Chapman & Hall, New York, 1997, pp. 586-634.
A6	Chatterjee, P.K., Editor, <u>Absorbency</u> , published by Elsevier, 1985, pp. 42-44.
A7	Disapio, Alfred J. et al., "Microporous Macrobeads Provide New Opportunities in Skin Care," <u>Soap & Cosmetics</u> , Vol. 75, No. 2, February 1999, pp. 42-44, 46-47.
A8	Dullien, F. A. L., <u>Porous Media: Fluid Transport and Pore Structure</u> , Academic Press, New York, 1979, pp. 78-83.
A9	Hostetter, David W., "Comparing Kneading and Disk Dispersion," <u>PaperAge</u> , November 1995, pg. 16.

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	A169	5,509,914	04/1996	Osborn, III			
	A170	5,514,104	05/1996	Cole et al.			
	A171	5,522,809	06/1996	Larsonneur			
	A172	5,527,300	06/1996	Sauer			
	A173	5,533,991	07/1996	Kirby et al.			
	A174	5,545,156	08/1996	DiPalma et al.			
	A175	5,558,656	09/1996	Bergman			
	A176	5,562,645	10/1996	Tanzer et al.			
	A177	5,562,650	10/1996	Everett et al.			
	A178	5,575,786	11/1996	Osborn, III			
	A179	5,578,025	11/1996	May			
	A180	5,591,148	01/1997	McFall et al.			
	A181	5,591,150	01/1997	Olsen et al.			
	A182	5,595,628	01/1997	Gordon et al.			
	A183	5,599,337	02/1997	Mccoy			
	A184	5,603,707	02/1997	Trombetta et al.			
	A185	5,607,551	03/1997	Farrington, Jr. et al.			
	A186	5,611,790	03/1997	Osborn, III et al.			
	A187	5,624,423	04/1997	Anjur et al.			
	A188	5,643,238	07/1997	Baker			
	A189	5,643,653	07/1997	Griesbach, III et al.			
	A190	5,647,863	07/1997	Hammons et al.			
	A191	5,649,916	07/1997	DiPalma et al.			
	A192	5,662,633	09/1997	Doak et al.			
	A193	5,672,248	09/1997	Wendt et al.			
	A194	5,674,210	10/1997	Coles et al.			
	A195	5,681,303	10/1997	Mills et al.			
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	A2	H1585	08/1996	Ahr			
	A3	H1614	11/1996	Maver et al.			
	A4	1,843,037	01/1932	Mathev			
	A5	2,064,431	12/1936	Jurgensen			
	A6	2,331,355	10/1943	Strongson			
	A7	2,747,575	05/1956	Mercer			
	A8	2,787,271	04/1957	Clark			
	A9	2,952,260	09/1960	Burgeni			
	A10	3,029,817	04/1962	Harwood et al.			
	A11	3,036,573	05/1962	Voigtman et al.			
	A12	3,143,113	08/1964	Mills			
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	A15	3,343,543	09/1967	Glassman			
	A16	3,395,201	07/1968	Kalwaites			
	A17	3,395,708	08/1968	Hervey et al.			
	A18	3,411,504	11/1968	Glassman			
	A19	3,430,630	03/1969	Meqison et al.			
	A20	3,468,311	09/1969	Gallagher			
	A21	3,554,862	01/1971	Hervey et al.			
	A22	3,556,932	01/1971	Coscia et al.			
	A23	3,556,933	01/1971	Williams et al.			
	A24	3,559,650	02/1971	Larson			
	A25	3,575,174	04/1971	Mogor			
	A26	3,585,104	06/1971	Kleinert			
	A27	3,592,194	07/1971	Duncan			
	A28	3,595,235	07/1971	Jespersen			

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KCC-214,105.3

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(Use several sheets if necessary)APPLICANT(S)
Wendy L. HAMILTON et al.

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Initials		Doc. No.	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
	A29	3,599,388	08/1971	Feingold			
	A30	3,612,054	10/1971	Matsuda			
	A31	3,677,886	07/1972	Forsshlad et al.			
	A32	3,700,623	10/1972	Keim			
	A33	3,736,931	06/1973	Glassman			
	A34	3,772,076	11/1973	Keim			
	A35	3,836,336	09/1974	Yasui et al.			
	A36	3,885,158	05/1975	Flutie et al.			
	A37	3,886,941	06/1975	Duane et al.			
	A38	3,889,679	06/1975	Taylor			
	A39	3,899,388	08/1975	Petrovich et al.			
	A40	3,901,236	08/1975	Assarsson et al.			
	A41	3,903,890	09/1975	Mesek et al.			
	A42	3,954,107	05/1976	Chesky et al.			
	A43	3,972,855	08/1976	Martinsson et al.			
	A44	4,015,604	04/1977	Csillag			
	A45	4,029,101	06/1977	Chesky et al.			
	A46	4,059,114	11/1977	Richards			
	A47	4,062,362	12/1977	Schaar			
	A48	4,069,822	01/1978	Buell			
	A49	4,100,324	07/1978	Anderson et al.			
	A50	4,129,528	12/1978	Petrovich et al.			
	A51	4,144,122	03/1979	Emanuelsson et al.			
	A52	4,147,586	04/1979	Petrovich et al.			
	A53	4,200,103	04/1980	Black et al.			
	A54	4,222,921	09/1980	Van Eenam			
	A55	4,247,362	01/1981	Williams			
	A56	4,282,874	08/1981	Mesek			

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	A114	4,973,325	11/1990	Sherrod et al.			
	A115	4,981,557	01/1991	Bjorkquist			
	A116	4,988,344	01/1991	Reising et al.			
	A117	5,007,906	04/1991	Osborn, III et al.			
	A118	5,008,344	04/1991	Biorkquist			
	A119	5,009,653	04/1991	Osborn, III			
	A120	5,030,229	07/1991	Yang			
	A121	5,030,314	07/1991	Lang			
	A122	5,048,589	09/1991	Cook et al.			
	A123	5,070,168	12/1991	O'Lenick, Jr.			
	A124	5,070,171	12/1991	O'Lenick, Jr.			
	A125	5,073,619	12/1991	O'Lenick, Jr.			
	A126	5,085,736	02/1992	Bjorkquist			
	A127	5,098,979	03/1992	O'Lenick, Jr.			
	A128	5,104,396	04/1992	Oatley et al.			
	A129	5,120,812	06/1992	O'Lenick, Jr. et al.			
	A130	5,135,294	08/1992	Ohshima et al.			
	A131	5,147,343	03/1998	Kellenberger			
	A132	5,149,765	09/1992	O'Lenick, Jr.			
	A133	5,151,091	09/1992	Glaug et al.			
	A134	5,167,654	12/1992	Yang			
	A135	5,171,302	12/1992	Buell			
	A136	5,188,625	02/1993	Van Iten et al.			
	A137	5,190,563	03/1993	Herron et al.			
	A138	5,196,499	03/1993	O'Lenick, Jr.			
	A139	5,197,959	03/1993	Buell			
	A140	5,225,047	07/1993	Graef et al.			

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	A142	5,242,435	09/1993	Murji et al.			
	A143	5,267,992	12/1993	Van Tilburg			
	A144	5,275,591	01/1994	Mavinkurve			
	A145	5,280,099	01/1994	Imperante et al.			
	A146	5,281,208	01/1994	Thompson et al.			
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	A162	5,429,629	07/1995	Latimer et al.			
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	A164	5,460,623	10/1995	Emenaker et al.			
	A165	5,484,430	01/1996	Osborn, III			
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	A167	5,490,846	02/1996	Ellis et al.			
	A168	5,509,913	04/1996	Yeo			

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	A197	5,692,939	12/1997	DesMarais			
	A198	5,695,487	12/1997	Cohen et al.			
	A199	5,702,378	12/1997	Widlund et al.			
	A200	5,711,970	01/1998	Lau et al.			
	A201	5,725,821	03/1998	Gannon et al.			
	A202	5,741,241	04/1998	Guidotti et al.			
	A203	5,746,732	05/1998	Olsson et al.			
	A204	5,752,947	05/1998	Awolin			
	A205	5,755,710	05/1998	Menard			
	A206	5,766,213	06/1998	Hackman et al.			
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	A224	5,858,011	01/1999	Brown et al.			

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	A58	4,324,246	04/1982	Mullane et al.			
	A59	4,327,728	05/1982	Elias			
	A60	4,340,058	07/1982	Pierce et al.			
	A61	4,342,314	08/1982	Radel et al.			
	A62	4,351,699	09/1982	Osborn, III			
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	A65	4,410,324	10/1983	Sabee			
	A66	4,432,833	02/1984	Breese			
	A67	4,460,642	07/1984	Errade et al.			
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	A77	4,568,341	02/1986	Mitchell et al.			
	A78	4,573,986	03/1986	Minetola et al.			
	A79	4,578,070	03/1986	Holtman			
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	A83	4,627,848	12/1986	Lassen et al.			
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	A86	4,650,481	03/1987	O'Connor et al.			
	A87	4,654,161	03/1987	Kollmeier et al.			
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	A91	4,676,784	06/1987	Erdman et al.			
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	A111	4,950,264	08/1990	Osborn, III			
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	A10	Kallmes, O.J. et al., "The Gravimetric Absorbency Testing System (GATS)," Tappi Symposium - 1985 Nonwovens Symposium, pp. 231-235.
	A11	Kaye, Brian H., "Mixing of Powders," Chapter 11 in <u>Handbook of Powder Science & Technology</u> , 2nd edition, Chapman & Hall, New York, 1997, pp. 568-585.
	A12	Main, Steve et al., "Retention Aids for High-Speed Paper Machines," <u>Tappi Journal</u> , Vol. 82, No. 4, April 1999, pp. 78-84.
	A13	O'Lenick Jr., Anthony J. et al., "Silicone Compounds: Not Just Oil Phases Anymore," <u>Soap/Cosmetics/Chemical Specialties</u> , June 1998, pp. 55-57.
	A14	Rahn, K. et al., "New Cellulosic Polymers By Subsequent Modification of 2,3-Dialdehyde Cellulose," <u>Cellulose Chemistry and Technology</u> , Vol. 32, 1998, pp. 173-183.
	A15	Shinohara, Kunio, "Fundamental and Rheological Properties of Powders," Chapter 4 in <u>Handbook of Powder Science & Technology</u> , 2nd edition, Chapman & Hall, New York, 1997, pp. 96-145.
	A16	Federal Specification UU-T-595b, "Towel, Wiping, Paper: Industrial And Institutional," April 4, 1967, 8 pages.
	A17	Federal Specification UU-T-595C, "Towel, Wiping, Paper: Industrial And Institutional," July 27, 1976, 8 pages.

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